

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

36

CONFIDENTIAL

Action  
SS

Classification

Control:  
Rec'd:

15923  
NOVEMBER 28, 1958  
12:07 PM

Info

FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 419, NOVEMBER 28, 5 PM

16

Berlin 419

NI ACT

EYES ONLY AND STRICTLY PERSONAL FOR SECRETARY DULLES  
FROM SENATOR BOURKE HICKENLOOPER:

I ARRIVED IN BERLIN YESTERDAY MORNING, HAVE DISCUSSED THE  
SITUATION WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE PEOPLE, STUDIED PRESS REPORTS, AND  
FIND THAT YOUR STATEMENTS OF NOVEMBER 26 AS INTERPRETED HERE  
HAVE CAUSED ALARM AND CONSTERNATION IN SO FAR AS "AGENCY"  
REFERENCE IS CONCERNED.

762.00 / 11-28-58

① I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOUR STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN MISCONSTRUED  
SINCE I KNOW YOUR STRONG FEELINGS WITH RESPECT TO MAINTENANCE  
OF A FIRM POSITION IN BERLIN.

MY OBSERVATIONS HERE CONVINCE ME THAT ACCEPTANCE OF THE "AGENT  
PRINCIPLE" INVOLVING SLIGHTEST INTERPRETED ADMISSION OF ANY  
DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF SO-CALLED GDR STATUS CANNOT BE JUSTIFIED  
ON ANY GROUNDS, LEGAL OR OTHERWISE, AND WOULD HAVE A  
CATASTROPHIC EFFECT ON OUR POSITION AND ON OUR PRESTIGE HERE  
AND ALL OF GERMANY, IN FACT IT ALREADY HAS.

AM FURTHER CONVINCED THAT WE MUST MAINTAIN THE STRONGEST  
POSSIBLE POSITION IN BERLIN AND TAKE NO STEP WHICH COULD BE  
INTERPRETED AS A RETREAT FROM OUR RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL  
OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THIS CITY OR REDUCE OBLIGATIONS  
AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF USSR.

WILL ARRIVE NEW YORK TOMORROW (SATURDAY) NIGHT.

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